

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Tuesday, January 11, 2011
5:30 PM

Present: Audrey Murphy, Don Murray, J. Tibbetts, MD, Patricia
Bacelis Leon, Harold Pfothhauer

Excused: Joe Van Deurzen

Staff Present: Judy Friederichs, John Paul

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Judy reported that Mary Scray has declined to be reappointed for a another term on the Board of Health. Confirmation of Don Murray and Joe Van Deurzen's appointments have not yet been voted on by the County Board of Supervisors.

2. APPROVAL / MODIFICATION OF THE AGENDA

To approve the agenda with the order of items #4 and #5 switched.

MOTION: To approve the agenda as modified. Tibbetts / Pfothhauer

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 12, 2010

MOTION: To approve. Tibbetts / Pfothhauer

MOTION CARRIED

4. REPORTS ON ODOR COMPLAINTS

John Paul distributed statistics on odor complaints over the last 3 years and the current year to date.

5. BUDGET UPDATE (Since Last Meeting)

The county board made the following decisions affecting our final 2011 budget:

- A decrease in overtime allowance, necessitating elimination of follow-up on non-urgent public health issues after hours. This will include odor and noise complaints.
- Capping of administrative salary levels.

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Judy reported that Whooping Cough is now present in the community. Staff are doing a lot of follow-up on contacts of ill persons. There appear to be 9 cases in the community although only 1 meets all of the strict state criteria for pertussis. Staff have been working on this outbreak for at least a month with many after-hours calls from providers coming in over the holidays.

There was an active case of extra-pulmonary TB reported in January. This person was transferred to Brown County from another state.

Staff have been involved in investigations of Norovirus – characterized by symptoms of both diarrhea and vomiting. Four long-term care facilities and a hospital were included. Control and follow-up is quite involved for these facilities.

The 2010 preparedness report was distributed to board members. A comprehensive update of the preparedness plan was completed in 2010. Satellite phones were purchased and the broadcast fax list was expanded to include more healthcare providers who receive emergency preparedness messages. Staff training to increase staff preparedness competencies was completed. There was a regional drill that involved calling in to the agencies to ascertain their ability to meet certain requirements for responding to an emergency. Special planning is done with at-risk and special needs populations. Preparedness staff are working with the Red Cross to help clarify their role in sheltering people in an emergency. Their current policy excludes sheltering people with special needs or with communicable diseases – although the national organization has publicly stated that they will not discriminate in their shelters. More work has been done with the faith community. There was an opportunity for nursing homes to apply for grants to improve their emergency preparedness – our staff has contacted nursing homes to encourage them to apply for these grants.

Audrey asked how tool kits are distributed to the faith community. Judy said that there used to be an interfaith council that would communicate with all denominations. Since that council no longer exists, staff are working with individual churches as well as the catholic diocese and other groups to develop a contact list for use in distributing tools and information.

Judy gave an update on the Community Health Improvement Process (CHIP). A steering committee has been systematically reviewing data for our community with the state health plan in mind. She expects that priorities will be set in March with implementation of the plan after that. Audrey is involved with the planning process and stated that it will be difficult to choose among the many issues facing our community including smoking, cardiovascular health and oral health. She said that she is pleased to see involvement across the spectrum of healthcare and community service providers. Judy said that public health is required to go through this process every 5 years while hospitals have to do it every 3 years. A status update will be done on the plan every 2.5 years, which will help meet the hospitals' need.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AUTHORIZED BY LAW

Audrey distributed information provided by the Brown County Citizens for Responsible Wind Energy. The document is a draft copy of a proposed bill that has not been introduced in the state legislature yet. The bill is intended to amend the current siting rules and increase the setback requirements to 1800 feet from a property line. Dr. Tibbetts stated that an expert has predicted that this requirement would prevent any activity in Brown County. He also stated that a requirement is included that the Wind Siting Council will review peer-reviewed research. He stated that this has already been done.

8. ADJOURNMENT / NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 8, 2011 at 5:30 PM.

MOTION: To adjourn, at 6:30 PM. Murray / Bacelis-Leon

MOTION CARRIED